

NATIONAL PERINATAL INFORMATION CENTER/ QUALITY ANALYTIC SERVICES

Providence, Rhode Island

BACKGROUND

The National Perinatal Information Center/Quality Analytic Services is a non-profit organization that was spun off from Women and Infants Hospital of Rhode Island in 1985. It started with a charter membership of major perinatal centers across the United States and since that time has become recognized as an invaluable information, research and evaluation resource to the perinatal community.

NPIC/QAS provides comparative benchmarking reports and performs research on the quality, management and outcome of perinatal services, evaluates perinatal health services programs, analyzes major policy issues in perinatal health care, and provides comparative reports to member hospitals.

NPIC/QAS's Board of Directors includes prominent clinicians, administrators, researchers and representatives from national organizations. The NPIC/QAS staff is comprised of a professional research and information team capable of responding to a variety of research, policy, and strategic planning questions.

NPIC/QAS is supported through grants and contracts with federal and state government agencies, public and private foundations, and annual membership fees.

NPIC/QAS ACTIVITIES

- **Membership Reports**
 - Comparative quarterly reports available to hospital members include analyses directed toward senior management, clinical department directors, quality assurance directors, risk managers and managed care contractors. Each report displays comparative data on patient mix, utilization, outcomes and quality indicators for the member hospital, a peer subgroup, and the entire database of perinatal centers. Custom analyses and special reports are also available on request.
- **Contracted Services**
 - **Department of Defense:** NPIC/QAS is in the ninth year of a DoD contract to analyze perinatal data for the Military Health System (MHS). The FY 12 Perinatal Performance Information Project involves the production of Comparative Quarterly Reports for 51 Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs). Each Report is MTF specific and there are two levels of comparison for each MTF: the MTF compared to the subgroup of other MTFs that offer either basic or subspecialty services and the MTF compared to the NPIC/QAS data base of civilian hospitals. In addition, NPIC/QAS is analyzing all MHS perinatal care that occurs at civilian hospitals.
 - **Harvard Risk Management Strategies Foundation:** NPIC/QAS is the data partner for **Team Performance Plus (TPP)[®]**, the obstetrical team training program, designed to reduce adverse events through improved communication and coordination in Labor and Delivery. TPP[®] principals are the developers of the **Adverse Outcome Index (AOI)** and NPIC/QAS produces comparative AOI reports for all hospitals participating in the TPP program as well as other hospitals interested in using the AOI to track improvements in perinatal services.
 - **Premier Perinatal Patient Safety Project** Premier, Inc. has an AHRQ grant to track perinatal quality improvement for a subset of 14 of its managed hospitals in comparison to

a subset of participating NPIC/QAS member hospitals. The scope of work includes detailed claims review for a full five year period including pre and post implementation of QI initiatives.

- **Georgia Regional Perinatal Care Network (GRPCN):** NPIC/QAS has been working with GRPCN for more than 20 years. Our contract involves the analysis of data for the annual distribution of approximately \$19.9 million in Medicaid funds to eight tertiary hospitals for the care of high risk mothers and infants eligible under the guidelines set forth by the Georgia Department of Human Resources, Family Services Section.

- **Policy Development**

- NPIC/QAS has conducted numerous analytic activities focused on maternal and child health programs. NPIC/QAS staff members work closely with state and regional perinatal programs to develop policies regarding regionalization, financing and reimbursement of high-risk services. NPIC/QAS is also involved in national policy discussions concerning the direction of maternal and child health services in the United States.

- **Research and Evaluation**

- NPIC/QAS receives extensive public and private support to study a wide range of subjects related to the financing, organization, effectiveness and evaluation of perinatal services and programs. These include: financing inpatient perinatal services, evaluation of substance abuse treatment and prevention programs, regionalization of perinatal care and hospital utilization and staffing.
- NPIC/QAS uses primary and secondary sources in its research activities including: state hospital discharge data, state and national vital statistics information, and surveys of patients, physicians, and other providers and administrators. NPIC/QAS periodically surveys perinatal centers nationwide for information on staffing and clinical activity.

- **Additional Activities/Services**

- NPIC/QAS is approved by the American Board of Pediatrics to provide 25 credits under the Maintenance of Certification program.
- NPIC/QAS offers CME/CEU programs at no charge to member hospitals.
- NPIC/QAS is a vendor for The Joint Commission Perinatal Care (PC Measure set and sits on the PC measures Task Force. NPIC/QAS also has a permanent guest seat on the American Hospital Association Governing Council for Maternal and Child Health.

- **Senior Staff**

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